

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
AT WINCHESTER

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
v.) Case No. 4:14-cr-4-HSM-SKL
JOSEPH TODD NEILL)
)

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b), I conducted a plea hearing in this case on March 7, 2014. At the hearing, defendant waived his right to prosecution by indictment and consented to proceeding on information rather than indictment, and entered a plea of guilty to Count 1 of the one-count Bill of Information pursuant to a written plea agreement. I find defendant made a knowing and voluntary waiver of indictment and consent to proceed before the magistrate judge. On the basis of the record made at the hearing, I find the defendant is capable and competent to enter an informed plea; the plea is made knowingly and with full understanding of each of the rights waived by defendant; the plea is made voluntarily and free from any force, threats, or promises; apart from the promises in the plea agreement; the defendant understands the nature of the charge and penalties provided by law; and the plea has a sufficient basis in fact.

Therefore, I **RECOMMEND** defendant's plea of guilty to Count 1 of the Bill of Information be accepted, and the Court adjudicate defendant guilty of the charges set forth in Count 1 of the Bill of Information, and a decision on whether to accept the plea agreement be deferred until sentencing. I further **RECOMMEND** defendant remain in custody until sentencing in this matter. Acceptance

of the plea, adjudication of guilt, acceptance of the plea agreement, and imposition of sentence are specifically reserved for the district judge.

s/Susan K. Lee

SUSAN K. LEE
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

NOTICE TO PARTIES

You have the right to de novo review of the foregoing findings by the district judge. Any application for review must be in writing, must specify the portions of the findings or proceedings objected to, and must be filed and served no later than fourteen days after the plea hearing. Failure to file objections within fourteen days constitutes a waiver of any further right to challenge the plea of guilty in this matter. See 28 U.S.C. §636(b).